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BASKETBALL



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Edwards Sinks Montevallo, 67-66, With Overtime Three



Posted: Jan 17, 2011

MONTEVALLO, Ala. - Chris Edwards' three-pointer with 0.9 seconds remaining in the first overtime sent the Armstrong Atlantic State University men's basketball team to an improbable 67-66 Peach Belt Conference men's basketball victory over host Montevallo on Monday afternoon in Montevallo, Ala.

The Pirates (9-5, 3-3 PBC) halted their two-game slide with the win and finished a grueling four-game road swing with a 2-2 mark. Montevallo (9-4, 2-2 PBC) dropped its second league contest out of its last three.

A wild final sequence saw the lead change hands four times in the final minute of overtime. With the score tied 62-all, a free throw by DeMarcus Catchings put the home team up by one with 55 seconds, but the Pirates retook the lead on a jumper by Edwards with 38.9 seconds left.

With Montevallo presumably holding for the last shot, Ryan Westbrook drained a three-pointer with 5.5 seconds left to put the Falcons up, 66-64-. The Pirates quickly inbounded the ball and Vanlandingham found Edwards on the right wing for the winning shot with less than a second left on the clock. Montevallo tried a full-court pass for a last shot but it went the length of the court and went out of bounds.

Edwards finished the contest with a game-high 23 points to lead all scorers, while Vanlandingham added 15 points and Jesse Wheeler notched 13 - all in the second half and overtime.

Montevallo placed four players in double figures, led by Ronald Severtsgaard's 16 points. Catchings finished with 13 points and Jonas Brown and Westbrook each chipped in 10.

Montevallo jumped out to a 16-4 lead in the first nine minutes of the contest - including seven points from Severtsgaard, who also canned a three on his first attempt of the season from beyond the arc. The Pirates cut the lead to seven on a Grant Domsic three-pointer to head into halftime down 28-21.

A Jesse Wheeler field goal on the first possession of the second half cut the lead to five, but the Pirates went the next 8:05 without a field goal, allowing the Falcons to stretch the lead to 14, 41-27, with 11:26 remaining - it's largest lead of the game.

The Pirates mounted a charge shortly after, sparked by junior Chris Vanlandingham. Vanlandingham scored seven of the Pirates' next nine points, a three-pointer cutting the Montevallo deficit to six, 42-36, with 9:27 remaining.

Chris Edwards then took over, scoring 12 points in a six-minute stretch, his last three-pointer putting Armstrong up by five, 58-53, with 1:52 remaining.

Severtsgaard hit a tough shot in the lane with 1:29 left to cut the lead to three, then Jonas Brown nailed a three from the right wing to tie the game up at 58-all with 35.2 seconds left. Armstrong had a chance to win it in regulation, but Chris Vanlandingham's shot with five seconds left missed the mark. Jesse Wheeler secured the offensive rebound but could not get a shot off before the clock expired, sending the game into overtime.

Armstrong finished the game hitting 39 percent from the floor (23-of-59) but capitalized at the free throw line, making 16 of 18 tosses from the stripe for 88.9 percent. Montevallo shot 41.5 percent from the floor (22-of-53) and 72 percent from the free throw line (18-of-25).

The Pirates return to action on Wednesday, January 19, hosting Lander University at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Arena.



ARMSTRONG STATE UNIVERSITY

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